



***ECRC / CTF-IA GSA/IA  
UPDATES and INFORMATION***

**Table Of Contents**

<b>ARTICLE</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
<a href="#"><u>Purpose</u></a>	2
<a href="#"><u>ECRC GSA Country Desks</u></a>	2
<a href="#"><u>Mandatory Response Form For GSA Sailors</u></a>	2
<a href="#"><u>GSA Command Career Counselor Note</u></a>	2-3
<a href="#"><u>GSA CITI GTCC Account</u></a>	3
<a href="#"><u>GSA Personal Mail</u></a>	3
<a href="#"><u>GSA Follow-On PCS Orders and Deployment</u></a>	4
<a href="#"><u>GSA FITREP and Eval Guidance</u></a>	4-5
<a href="#"><u>Warrior Transition</u></a>	5-6
<a href="#"><u>Commander Task Force-Individual Augmentee</u></a>	7-10
<a href="#"><u>Individual Augmentee News and Updates</u></a>	10-12
<a href="#"><u>Accessing Your Electronic Service Record Info</u></a>	13
<a href="#"><u>GTCC Travel Tips</u></a>	13
<a href="#"><u>Family Tips of the Month</u></a>	14-15
<a href="#"><u>Savings Deposit Program</u></a>	15
<a href="#"><u>Post 9/11 G.I. Bill</u></a>	16
<a href="#"><u>Pay and Allowance Continuation Program</u></a>	16
<a href="#"><u>Navy Department Awards Web Service</u></a>	16
<a href="#"><u>Service Member's Group Life Insurance Traumatic Injury Protection</u></a>	16
<a href="#"><u>Homeowners Assistances Program</u></a>	16-17

## PURPOSE

This is a joint newsletter from Expeditionary Combat Readiness Center and Commander, Task Force Individual Augmentee for all deployed Individual Augmentee (IA) Sailors. IA Sailors include Navy personnel on Individual Augmentee Manpower Management (IAMM), Mobilized Reserve Component (MOB RC) and Global War on Terror Support Assignment (GSA) orders. Our objective is to provide useful information to all IA and to maintain positive monthly contact with our Sailors with GSA orders. Our intent is to provide you with an opportunity to let ECRC and CTF-IA know if you or your family needs any additional support or if you are encountering any difficulties. This newsletter also provides a quick method to update your contact information, report an issue and allow us to rapidly respond as needed.

## ECRC GSA COUNTRY DESKS

**Contact information for ECRC HQ administrative support.**

**Receipts:** [ecrc.gsa.receipts.fct@navy.mil](mailto:ecrc.gsa.receipts.fct@navy.mil) (Updated)

Telephone Number: 757-462-4744 Ext 241

**Pay:** [ecrc.gsa.manning.fct@navy.mil](mailto:ecrc.gsa.manning.fct@navy.mil) (Updated)

Telephone Number: 757-462-4744 Ext(s) 235, 284, 123 or 247

**Transfers:** [ecrc.gsa.transfers.fct@navy.mil](mailto:ecrc.gsa.transfers.fct@navy.mil) (Updated)

Telephone Number: 757-462-4744 Ext(s) 221, 252, 249 or 136

## MANDATORY RESPONSE FORM FOR GSA SAILORS

If you are a GSA assigned to ECRC maintain contact with your detaching command per guidance specified in NAVADMIN 293/08. As a member of ECRC we also want to maintain contact with you during your GSA tour. Ensure ECRC has your current contact information (military email, DSN and APO address) by responding to this letter. To update your contact information, click on the link below or respond directly to your Country Desk Clerk. If you have an issue which requires ECRC action/support, contact us via this response form, your Country Desk Clerk, or the ECRC Help Desk. Ensure you include your **Name, Rate/Rank, NE#, and Country Location** on all correspondence.

Click here to access the form: [ECRC RESPONSE LINK](#) (CTRL + click to open link – Must have Adobe Reader installed)

If you are unable to open the link, paste the following into your browser address window: <http://www.ecrc.navy.mil/survey.pdf>

**If you have problems opening the form:** Send an email to your country desk:

A. Team Iraq: [ecrc.gsa\\_iraq.fct@navy.mil](mailto:ecrc.gsa_iraq.fct@navy.mil)

B. Team Afghanistan: [ecrc.gsa\\_afghanistan.fct@navy.mil](mailto:ecrc.gsa_afghanistan.fct@navy.mil)

C. Team Kuwait/HOA/All-Others: [ecrc.gsa\\_other.fct@navy.mil](mailto:ecrc.gsa_other.fct@navy.mil)

Be sure to include your NAME, RATE, RANK, NOBLE EAGLE NUMBER, YOUR LOCATION (COUNTRY) and APO ADDRESS. Let us know if you need to update your contact information or if you need help resolving any issues.

## GSA COMMAND CAREER COUNSELOR NOTES

### NEGOTIATING PCS ORDERS

\*\*\*Shortly after arriving in theater most GSA's will be in the window for PCS Orders\*\*\*

As a general rule, if you are within nine (9) months of your PRD you should be checking CMS or contacting your detailee for follow-on orders. If you have not received orders or have not selected orders by the 5 month mark prior to PRD, it is imperative that you contact your detailee or one of the ECRC HQ Career Counselors for assistance.

## **GSA COMMAND CAREER COUNSELOR NOTES (cont.)**

Some basic information for when you receive your follow-on orders are as follows:

1. Read your orders in their entirety to ensure that you complete all required Screening Requirements, Obligated Service Requirements and that the number of dependents on your orders is correct.
2. You have 30 days to complete a Special Duty Screening, once you are notified via detailer e-mail, ECRC country desk, or PCS orders. You must update your ECRC Country Desk Clerk within 15 days after receipt of notification on status of screening.
3. 90 days prior to your PRD (ECRC transfer date), PSD will release a Transfer Information Sheet (TIS) to ECRC. ECRC will forward the TIS to you electronically. Complete all items on the TIS and return to ECRC. As a reminder, your transfer date is the day you transfer from ECRC and is not necessarily the same as your redeployment date. PSD will only issue TIS's based on your transfer month.
4. If you do not receive a Transfer Information Sheet (TIS) within 90 days of your expected PRD, contact your ECRC Country Desk Clerk.

### **Useful Links:**

**CTRL + CLICK to open link:**

- Enlisted advancement information: <http://www.npc.navy.mil/CareerInfo/EnlistedCareerProgression/>
- Find pay and benefits information: <http://www.npc.navy.mil/CareerInfo/PayAndBenefits/>

### **Want to contact your detailer?**

<http://www.npc.navy.mil/Enlisted/Detailers.htm>

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The most current and authoritative advancement information for active-duty and Reserve Sailors is available and can be viewed and downloaded for free by visiting the Navy Advancement Center's Web site at <https://www.advancement.cnet.navy.mil>.

### **ECRC HQ Command Career Counselor:**

NCC(SW/AW) Reep  
[kevin.reep@navy.mil](mailto:kevin.reep@navy.mil)  
757-462-4744 ext 117  
DSN: 253-4744 x117

## **GSA CITI GTCC ACCOUNT**

All GSA personnel are directed to verify their account balances as soon as possible to avoid any unfavorable information being passed to the credit reporting agencies and/or accounts being forwarded to collection agencies and processed for pay garnishments.

1. GSA personnel who requested Express Delivery service have been charged a fee of \$20.00 by CITI Bank. Even if you have never used the card, you have a balance due and must make appropriate payment. The expedite fee of \$20.00 is reimbursable.
2. To minimize improper usage of the GTCC and reduce the number of GTCC delinquencies, ECRC will deactivate all CITI GTCC accounts for GSA personnel who are not deployed in a billet which requires in-theater travel or are required to reside in off-base billeting. Personnel who are in a training status will not be affected. If you are occupying a billet in theater which requires you to travel or you are assigned to an area that does not have government billeting facilities contact one of the following IAW with the type of orders you have:

GSA Personnel: Contact YNC(EXW) Tickle: [michael.tickle1@navy.mil](mailto:michael.tickle1@navy.mil)

IAMM Personnel: Contact your parent command. ECRC cannot change your GTCC account status.

Mobilized Reservists: Contact your NOSC. ECRC cannot change your GTCC account status.

## **GSA PERSONAL MAIL**

ECRC does not have a mailroom or personnel to handle personal mail. Take advantage of mail forwarding offered by the U.S. Postal Service (USPS). GSA personnel are advised to submit a Change of Address form with the USPS to ensure mail is sent to their theater APO address. If you have forwarded mail to ECRC, contact your Country Desk representative immediately and provide a forwarding address. If no forwarding address information is provided, expect personal mail arriving at ECRC to be returned to sender after 30 days.

## **GSA FOLLOW-ON PCS ORDERS AND RE-DEPLOYMENT**

One of the most important parts of your re-deployment from theater is the completing your Personnel Support Detachment (PSD) PCS Transfer Information Sheet (TIS). The PCS TIS identifies your entitlements (DLA/TLE, advance pay etc.) defines PCS travel information and desired transfer date from ECRC.

PCS TIS packages can only be generated by your servicing PSD after your orders are received so it is imperative you communicate with your detailer and receive a copy of your follow-on PCS orders as soon as possible during your GSA tour. The TIS will be delivered to you via the e-mail address you have provided with instructions on how to complete the form and when the TIS must be returned. Your completed TIS will be reviewed at ECRC HQ and forwarded to your servicing PSD, Norfolk or San Diego, for processing.

Time line:

Receive follow-on PCS orders from PERS

90\* Days prior to PRD: Receive TIS from ECRC HQ.

60 Days prior to PRD: Return completed TIS to ECRC HQ.

30 Days prior to PRD: ECRC HQ confirms TIS status with servicing PSD and provides updates to member as needed.

**\*If you have follow-on PCS orders and do not receive a Transfer Information Sheet (TIS) within 90 days of your expected PRD (ECRC transfer date), contact ECRC HQ. As a reminder, your transfer date is the day you transfer from ECRC and is not necessarily the same as your redeployment date. PSD will only issue TIS's based on transfer month.**

It is important to remember that it is your responsibility to negotiate follow on orders with your detailer as soon as you fall within the normal detailing window, 9 months of your PRD. ECRC Command Career Counselors are here to assist you in this process. Due to the unique duties that you are performing it is imperative that you complete and submit your TIS on time to ensure PSD has sufficient time to set up your PCS transfer. Upon return from theater you will only have a few days at NMPS Norfolk/San Diego and ECRC to execute your transfer. Any issues (i.e. TIS not submitted, screening not completed, etc.) will only delay your detachment and PCS transfer to your next duty station.

## **GSA FITREP AND EVAL GUIDANCE**

1. Interested in getting a copy of a past FITREP or Evaluation? Log on to Bupers On Line. Once logged in, click on the last item on the menu entitled "Web Enabled Record Review". Once you select this, you'll need to click on "Proceed" to be able view your Official Military Personnel File (OMPF). You'll then need to click one of the boxes on the left side choosing which file to view (NAVPERS appears by each box). You'll then get a window stating "A checked box means the document etc....." Click OK. The screen will look like it's about to load the requested document when a pop out blocker will appear on top of your screen. Go ahead and click on that and chose "Download file". The document should then appear and you'll be able to print it off. You'll be able to view more than just a past FITREP or Evaluation; you can review your entire record on file.

2. In accordance with BUPERSINST 1610.10B, the following guidance is provided for the completion of Evaluations and Fitness reports while on a GSA Tour.

A. GSA Periodic/Detaching Reports: The GSA sailor is forward deployed from the parent command and will therefore receive Not Observed (NOB) Periodic and Detachment of Individual reports from ECRC to maintain regular report continuity as required by BUPERSINST 1610.10B. A signature from the member is not required on NOB reports. ECRC does not issue periodic reports to members onboard less than 90 days who will not exceed the 15 month reporting window. ECRC mails reports directly to the Bureau of Navy Personnel (PERS-32) for inclusion in the official record.

B. Concurrent Reports: Concurrent reports document observed performance and are viewed by selection boards. GSA personnel may receive a Concurrent Detachment of Individual report to document their performance during their GSA tour. This report is initiated by the Concurrent Reporting Senior (the OIC or CO at your deployed command) where the GSA member is temporarily assigned and has direct observation of the Sailor. The Concurrent report period should begins the day the GSA sailor reports to their theater command and conclude at the date of detachment for redeployment back to ECRC.

(1) Signature Blocks for Concurrent Reports:

Block 22 OIC or CO of your theater unit

Block 47: JORDAN, M L, CAPT, ECRC, UIC 4591A (E7 & above)

Block 52: MIHELICH, J L, CDR, ECRC, UIC 4591A (E6 & below)

## **GSA FITREP AND EVAL GUIDANCE (cont.)**

C. Forwarding Concurrent Reports to ECRC. Scan and email reports to ECRC HQ at: [ecrc.hq.fct@navy.mil](mailto:ecrc.hq.fct@navy.mil) a minimum of two weeks prior to detachment from GSA tour. The report will be signed by your Regular Reporting Senior as listed above, scanned, and mailed to PERS-32 for inclusion in your official record. Copies are available upon return and transfer.

**More information and guidance can be found on our website – [www.ecrc.navy.mil](http://www.ecrc.navy.mil)**  
**Select GSA EVAL/FITREP from the left hand side**

## **WARRIOR TRANSITION**

### **Going home is a journey...not just a destination.**

When you started your mission, you may have been an active duty Sailor assigned as temporary duty, a GSA assigned as PCS or a mobilized reservist – then you became an IA. You are about to make your next transition to Returning Warrior. Every Returning Warrior has changed during their tour, and so has your family. This is normal and the Navy has developed tools to assist you and your family in the process.

### **Preparation**

Maintain regular contact with your Command and your family. As with any flight, dates and times may change, but if you keep your command and family informed, then they can plan when to meet you. In many cases your initial arrival in CONUS won't be near your Command or family, but they'll still want to know when you are back in the United States and when you plan to arrive home.

### **ALL Personnel**

60-45 days out from your BOG date contact your in-country NAVCENT Forward Headquarters to obtain a **Warrior Transition Program Quota**. Ensure your requested date is at least ten days prior to your BOG date. Sailors assigned in Kuwait should contact the Warrior Transition Center (WTC) directly for your quota and follow on travel.

1. Prior to detaching from your deployment Command you must have a stamped and signed set of your **Transfer Orders (Demobilization Orders for Reservists)**, a **Theatre Release Letter** (signed by an O6), and copy of your **Travel Itinerary**.
2. Check your **Military ID Card**. Inform the WTP staff immediately upon arrival if your ID card expires within 30 days of your BOG date.
3. All Active Duty Sailors are required to complete the online portion of the **PDHA** no earlier than 30 days prior to reporting to WTC.

NAVCENT Forward HQ Afghanistan: [navcentfwdafghan@afghan.swa.army.mil](mailto:navcentfwdafghan@afghan.swa.army.mil)  
NAVCENT Forward HQ Iraq: [navcentfwdiraq@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:navcentfwdiraq@iraq.centcom.mil)  
NAVCENT Forward HQ Kuwait: [vrgn.niasu.det@kuwait.swa.army.mil](mailto:vrgn.niasu.det@kuwait.swa.army.mil)  
NAVCENT Forward HQ HOA (Updated): [strength.management@hoa.usafricom.mil](mailto:strength.management@hoa.usafricom.mil)

## **YOUR TIME AT WARRIOR TRANSITION PROGRAM**

The Warrior Transition Program is located on Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. Immediately upon arrival at Camp Arifjan check in with the WTP staff for berthing assignment and schedule information. All sailors will be berthed in tents during transition at WTP. At WTP you will:

1. **Day One: Gear Drop and Weapons Turn-in.** Weapons must be cleaned to inspection standards and free of all oils prior to turn-in. Weapons can be cleaned at WTP the day prior to and the day of gear drop. Gear must be free of "pinch-able dust." You will also complete your electronic **PDHA, Navy Deployment Survey, Admin Review** (review of your Orders, Theatre Release Letter, and Travel Itinerary) and attend a PDHA Provider appointment. At the conclusion of Day One there will be a mandatory Departure Requirements briefing for all returning Sailors.
2. **Day Two:** On Day Two you will be scheduled to attend the CNO mandated **Warrior Transition Workshop**, and remaining PDHA Provider appointments will occur.

## WARRIOR TRANSITION (Cont.)

3. Day Three: Dependent on Class size, the morning of Day Three may include the completion of any outstanding PDHAs and Transition Workshops. You will attend a mandatory **Admin Brief** where you will receive final Travel Itineraries, Orders and Theatre Release Letters (those requiring Admin corrections), ECRC Information Package and Customs/ Rotator times. Sailors scheduled for the **Rotator flight** will be transported to **Military Customs** for clearing and staging for the Rotator.
4. Day Four: The **Rotator flight** will normally depart theatre in the early morning.

### Travel

For most Sailors, your trip home will normally be on a military flight called a “rotator.” This means the flight may make several stops to pick up additional passengers – somewhat like a bus route. You will be required to wear your uniform on the rotator. The first CONUS destination will normally be Baltimore-Washington International (BWI) Airport. Once there you will collect your checked bags and exit through Immigration and Customs. In most cases you will immediately proceed to your next flight - a commercial connection. IAMM (temporary duty from a parent command) will be in a travel status and can proceed to your parent command location. GSA and Mobilized Reserve will proceed to NMPS. Your travel arrangements should have been made for you before you left theatre. Most Returning Warriors can proceed to the ticket counters located up one level from customs. If you cannot make your scheduled flight, ask the ticket agent and they will adjust your travel as needed. If you find that you do not have follow on flight information, contact the SATO Office immediately. Notify ECRC or your parent command of any changes to your itinerary. At WTP GSA’s will have the opportunity to sign up for ECRC to meet you and provide transportation to berthing.

If you are scheduled for a commercial flight your travel to the airport will be coordinated through the Warrior Transition Center.

**Civilian clothes** are required for commercial flights; closed toe shoes, long pants, full length shirt w/sleeves (no military or provocative print).

Whether or not you are scheduled for a commercial flight, bring a complete set of civilian clothes with you to WTC. Travel plans can change at the last minute. A limited selection of civilian clothes is available at the Camp Arifjan PX.

### Help If You Need It

**ECRC IA HELPDESK - [ecrc.hq.fct@navy.mil](mailto:ecrc.hq.fct@navy.mil)**

**Helpdesk questions are normally answered within one business day**

**ECRC IA WEBSITE - [www.ecrc.navy.mil](http://www.ecrc.navy.mil)**

**The constant current source for IA information**

**ECRC Norfolk Staff Duty Officer - 757-763-8640**

**ECRC San Diego Staff Duty Officer - 619-929-4884**

**24 HR Toll Free Family Hotline -1-877-364-4302**

**NMPS Norfolk - 757-438-3375**

**NMPS San Diego - 619-887-8080**

**NMPS Gulfport - 228-871-3199**

**NMPS Port Hueneme - 805-797-4700**

**SATO - 800-359-999**



## Theater IA Policies

### VCNO Re-Missioning Policy

In order to ensure deploy within the parameters defined by the Joint Manning Documents (JMD) billet, Request for Forces (RFF) mission description, or Force Tracking Number (FTN) requirements, the Vice Chief of Naval Operations provides guidance covering the re-Missioning of Navy personnel. This Policy is located on NAVCENT Collaboration at Sea (CAS) SIPR Website: <http://205.0.215.195/fleet/c5f/site.nsf/Main.html?openpage>. To open CTF-IA page, go to "Links" and select "CTFs and DESRONs"; and under "CTF Commands", select "CTF Individual Augmentee". Under CTF-IA DOCUMENTS, click "CTF-IA Policies"; and then select the link titled "VCNO\_NAVCENT Re-Missioning Policy".

### Utilization of U.S. Navy Medical Personnel in Non-Medical Roles

The Force Surgeon in collaboration with the Force Judge Advocate at U.S. Naval Forces Central Command issued policy guidance for the proper utilization of Medical Personnel in Non-Medical Roles. This memorandum is located can also be found under the policy section of the CTF-IA page on NAVCENT CAS website.

RDML Cropper, Commander Task Force Individual Augmentee, has issued the following policies that are also located under "CTF-IA Policies" section of the CTF-IA page on the CAS website.

- **Protective Security Details (PSD) (June 2009)**
- **Physical Readiness Test in Theater (June 2009)**
- **Assignment of U.S. Navy Personnel to Accountable Officer/Property Book Officer/Personal Property Manager Duties. (Apr 2009)**
- **14 Day Turnover Policy Letter (Mar 2009)**

NAVCENT Forward Iraq (NFI) has issued the following policy guidance, which located on NFI SIPR website:

[https://www.force.s-iraq.centcom.smil.mil/Special\\_Staff/NFI/default.aspx](https://www.force.s-iraq.centcom.smil.mil/Special_Staff/NFI/default.aspx)

- **Leave Authorization During Redeployment (May 2009)**
- **Redeployment Standard Operation Procedures (May 2009)**
- **Leave/Pass Policy and Emergency Leave Procedures for US Navy Personnel Assigned in the Iraq Theater (Apr 2009)**
- **Policy for Additional Weapons, Exchange, or Replacement (Apr 2009)**

NAVCENT Forward Afghanistan has issued the following policy guidance:

- **Theater Guidance on Evaluations and Fitness Reports (March 2009)**
- **Leave Policy and Procedures for US Navy Personnel Assigned in the Afghanistan Theater (March 2009)**
- **Policy for Additional Weapons, Exchange, or Replacement (March 2009)**
- **Extension Policy for Deployed on GSA/IA Assignments in Afghanistan (Feb 2009)**

## IA Policy in Staffing

### Limit IA/Ad-hoc Sailor tour lengths in CENTCOM AOR

- Policy will limit IA/ Ad-hoc Sailor to:
  1. No more than 24 month tour lengths or a second rotation for most assignments (whichever is longer).
  2. Navy Guard Forces/ Detainee Operations, Embedded Training Teams, Provincial Reconstruction Teams, and Counter-Improvised Explosive Device units will serve for only one 12 month tour length or one rotation, and then return to their parent commands.

## ***Commander Task Force- Individual Augmentee (CTF-IA) - (cont.)***

- Regardless of which category IA/Ad-hoc fall into above, they must:
  1. Return to the Fleet for 12 months minimum (continuous).
  2. Complete the Post-Deployment Health Reassessment (PDHRA), and be screened by health care providers.

### **Contact information for NFHQs and CTF-IA Desk Officers.**

NAVCENT FWD HQS AFGHANISTAN: [navcentfwdafghan@afghan.swa.army.mil](mailto:navcentfwdafghan@afghan.swa.army.mil)

NAVCENT FWD HQS IRAQ:

[navcentfwdiraq@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:navcentfwdiraq@iraq.centcom.mil)

[http://force.intranet.s-iraq.centcom.smil.mil/Special\\_Staff/NFI/default.aspx](http://force.intranet.s-iraq.centcom.smil.mil/Special_Staff/NFI/default.aspx)

[https://mnfi.intranet.iraq.centcom.mil/Special\\_Staff/NAVCENTFWD\\_Iraq/default.aspx](https://mnfi.intranet.iraq.centcom.mil/Special_Staff/NAVCENTFWD_Iraq/default.aspx)

NAVCENT FWD HQS KUWAIT:

[vrgn.niasu.det@kuwait.swa.army.mil](mailto:vrgn.niasu.det@kuwait.swa.army.mil)

TF-IA STAFF, BAHRAIN:

[AUGDIV@me.navy.mil](mailto:AUGDIV@me.navy.mil)

### **CTF-IA CHIEF OF STAFF'S CORNER**

#### **A Day in the Navy Photos**

The CTF-IA COS recently requested submissions of photos from IA Sailors in theater for October 24, selected as last month's "A Day in the Navy." Many Sailors responded with tremendous photographs from across the AOR. These photos will be submitted for "A Day in the Navy" produced by the Navy Office of Information and also be incorporated as part of an IA video which is under development. This video will be shown at Navy Individual Augmentee Combat Training at Fort Jackson to the Sailors getting ready to go forward. The photos submitted have been uploaded to the CTF-IA Website ([www.cusnc.navy.mil/ctf-ia/ctf-ia.htm](http://www.cusnc.navy.mil/ctf-ia/ctf-ia.htm)) displaying in a slide show or as an album. The photos show IA Sailors training, working, playing, underway, airborne and afield in exotic locations. Take a few moments to see your shipmates in their elements.

#### **SECNAV Veteran's Day Message to the Fleet**

"One day each year is set aside to specially recognize the service and sacrifice of the more than 23 million living American Veterans who have defended the United States at home and abroad.

Although one day is wholly inadequate to honor those who have given so much of themselves, Veterans Day is a symbol of the enormous debt we owe to our Veterans. First celebrated in 1919 as a commemoration of Armistice Day and the end of the First World War, Veterans Day has become an enduring memorial to our forebears and their service. On this day, we honor those who established the legacy of the United States Military as the finest military force in the world. We remember the rich tradition of the uniform, full of honor, he4rosim, and sacrifice. And we reflect on the Navy and Marine Corps battles stretching back across the years, battles fought in Belleau Wood and from Scapa Flow, through Midway and Tarawa, Chosin and Inchon, Hue City, Kafji, and Fallujah, to Baghdad and Helmand today.

Our Veterans represent the best of America. Men and women from every race and creed, they have constantly p[re]served the blessings of liberty that we now enjoy. We honor their service, and we honor you who carry on in the tradition and continue to defend our nation.

Thank you for your service, Godspeed."

Released by Ray Mabus, Secretary of the Navy.

#### **TACON, OPCON and ADCON**

Individual Augmentee (IA) Sailors are considered under the Tactical Control (TACON) of the supported commander, also known as the Commander on the Ground. From the definition of TACON (Joint Publication 1-02), this entails:

*Command authority over assigned or attached forces or commands, or military capability or forces made available for tasking, that is limited to the detailed direction and control of movements or maneuvers within the operational area necessary to accomplish missions or tasks assigned.*

## **Commander Task Force- Individual Augmentee (CTF-IA) - (cont.)**

Whereas IAs that are embedded in their Army units, they are under TACON of that unit taking direction for accomplishment of the assigned mission, to include day to day operations and individual tasking. For IAs that are in an Adhoc Unit with Navy leadership, the unit itself will be TACON to the supported commander, normally an Army or Joint Command.

CTF-IA, via the NAVCENT Forward Headquarters (Task Force-IA) in Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait, exercises Operational Control of Navy IA Sailors in Adhoc Units and embedded in Army units and commands. CTF-IA provides the Navy Chain of Command for these Sailors. From Joint Pub 1-02:

*Operational control is the authority to perform those functions of command over subordinate forces involving organizing and employing commands and forces, assigning tasks, designating objectives, and giving authoritative direction necessary to accomplish the mission.*

In this context, CTF-IA will ensure the proper employment of Navy Sailors, in accordance with their assigned missions and training, inherent in their rate or received enroute to theater. A Sailor's responsibilities and/or assignment may change during their tour, this should occur under the cognizance of TF-IA. A Sailor should not be taken from their assignment to perform duties well outside of their skill sets or for which specific, dedicated training is required and significant additional risk is incurred. The NAVCENT Forward HQ should be contacted if this form of 'remissioning' is suspected. Sailors can ALWAYS reach CTF-IA via: AUGDIV@me.navy.mil.

Administrative Control (ADCON), from Joint Pub 1-02,

*Direction or exercise of authority over subordinate or other organizations in respect to administration and support, including organization of Service forces, control of resources and equipment, personnel management, unit logistics, individual and unit training, readiness, mobilization, demobilization, discipline, and other matters not included in the operational missions of the subordinate or other organizations.*

CTF-IA, in its role as ECRC Forward, exercises ADCON of IA Sailors, reaching back to ECRC as required for support. TF-IA ADCON support to Sailors includes, but is not limited to, advancement exams, pay and personnel issues, career counseling, leave, personnel accounting (muster), preparation for redeployment, scheduling Warfighter Transition Program and associated transportation.

This is a basic discussion of the above concepts, the business rules vary depending upon what type of orders the Sailor may be under, GSA, IAMM or Reserve Mobilization. These rules are discussed in depth in the NAVADMINs and IA Grams available on the USFF IA Website and within this newsletter. It is encouraged that personnel, when able, access the [www.ia.navy.mil](http://www.ia.navy.mil) website and become familiar with the guidance and policies that apply to them.

### **Enlisted High Year Tenure (HYT) and Advancement Exams**

Advancement exams are a critical aspect of a successful enlisted Sailor career. The experience of taking the exam provides exposure to the material on the exam as well as Passed Not Advanced (PNA) points if advancement is not achieved. If at all possible, it is highly encouraged that advancement exams are accomplished. However, policy exists for Sailors to not take the advancement exam while in theater, due to the challenges related to taking the exam forward deployed in potentially austere, non-conducive conditions. There is a misconception among HYT Sailors in theater that PERS will grant a HYT waiver to get them through the exam cycle and posted results. This is not the case. Waivers for HYT will only be considered for the completion of an IA tour. Waivers for HYT will not be granted for extensions beyond the length of the IA tour for the purposes of taking the next advancement exam. NAVADMIN 336/07 defines the requirements and procedures for administration of the Navy-Wide Advancement Exam for Sailors in Iraq and Afghanistan. Accommodations may be made for HYT Sailors to take the examination while deployed, take advantage of these opportunities and stay Navy. The NAVCENT Forward Headquarters Command Master Chiefs are highly supportive of getting exams out to IA Sailors, let them know you want to take it.

From NAVADMIN 002/08:

(5) EAOS MANAGEMENT: WE EXPECT SAILORS TO GO FORWARD IN SUPPORT OF GWOT OPERATIONS. PERSONNEL SELECTED FOR AN IA MUST HAVE AN EAOS BEYOND THE END OF THE MONTH FOLLOWING THE PROJECTED MONTH OF RETURN FROM THE IA. IF REQUIRED, PERSONNEL SHOULD EXTEND OR REENLIST AS APPROPRIATE TO ENSURE THEY HAVE SUFFICIENT OBLIGATED SERVICE. DETAILERS/BUPERS-32 WILL CONSIDER HIGH-YEAR TENURE WAIVERS ON A CASE- BY CASE BASIS.

## ***Commander Task Force- Individual Augmentee (CTF-IA) - (cont.)***

Per NAVPERS 1300/22 (Part II, 1C), Expeditionary Screening Checklist, if HYT is required, it must be approved during Command Review, prior to deploying on IAMM/GSA.

Guidance from the advancement cycle NAVADMINs regarding eligibility based on HYT is:

CANDIDATES WHO REACH HIGH YEAR TENURE (HYT) ON OR AFTER THE FIRST DAY OF THE ADVANCEMENT CYCLE OR HAVE RECEIVED A HYT WAIVER TO REMAIN ON ACTIVE DUTY (OR IN AN ELIGIBLE STATUS FOR SELRES) BEYOND FIRST DAY OF THE ADVANCEMENT CYCLE, ARE ELIGIBLE FOR ADVANCEMENT. THOSE CANDIDATES WITH A HYT DATE PRIOR TO FIRST DAY OF THE ADVANCEMENT CYCLE ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR ADVANCEMENT AND SHOULD NOT BE ADMINISTERED THE ADVANCEMENT EXAMINATION.

### **EXAMPLES:**

JAN E7 EXAM, ADVANCEMENT CYCLE BEGINS 1 SEP OF THAT YEAR FEB E4/E5/E6 EXAM, ADVANCEMENT CYCLE BEGINS 1 JUL OF THAT YEAR FEB E7 EXAM, ADVANCEMENT CYCLE BEGINS 1 SEP OF THAT YEAR MAR E4/E5/E6 EXAM, ADVANCEMENT CYCLE BEGINS 1 JUL OF THAT YEAR AUG E4/E5/E6/ EXAM, ADVANCEMENT CYCLE BEGINS 1 JAN OF THE FOLLOWING YEAR SEP E4/E5/E6/EXAM, ADVANCEMENT CYCLE BEGINS 1 JAN OF THE FOLLOWING YEAR NOV E8/E9 VALIDATION, ADVANCEMENT CYCLE BEGINS 1 JUL OF THE FOLLOWING YEAR

## ***INDIVIDUAL AUGMENTEE NEWS AND UPDATES:***

**NavAdmins** - <http://www.npc.navy.mil/ReferenceLibrary/Messages/>

### **USFF NAVY INDIVIDUAL AUGMENTEE (IA) WEBSITE**

ENCOURAGEMENT AND SUPPORT FOR THE IA PROGRAM IS CRUCIAL TO ITS SUCCESSFUL EXECUTION AND [WWW.IA.NAVY.MIL](http://WWW.IA.NAVY.MIL) PROVIDES SAILORS AND THEIR FAMILIES A TREMENDOUS NEW TOOL.

### **FY-11 ENLISTED SELECTION BOARDS FOR NAVY RESERVE AND ACTIVE DUTY MASTER AND SENIOR CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS CYCLE 205**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING THIS CYCLE WILL BE POSTED AT:

[HTTP://WWW.NPC.NAVY.MIL/BOARDS/RESERVEENLISTED/SCPO\\_MCPO\\_SELBD.HTM](http://WWW.NPC.NAVY.MIL/BOARDS/RESERVEENLISTED/SCPO_MCPO_SELBD.HTM)

[HTTP://WWW.NPC.NAVY.MIL/BOARDS/ACTIVEDUTYENLISTED/SCPO+SELECTION+BOARDS.HTM](http://WWW.NPC.NAVY.MIL/BOARDS/ACTIVEDUTYENLISTED/SCPO+SELECTION+BOARDS.HTM)

[HTTP://WWW.NPC.NAVY.MIL/BOARDS/ACTIVEDUTYENLISTED/MCPOSELECTIONBOARDS.HTM](http://WWW.NPC.NAVY.MIL/BOARDS/ACTIVEDUTYENLISTED/MCPOSELECTIONBOARDS.HTM).

RECORD REVIEW AND CORRESPONDENCE SUBMISSION GUIDANCE IS PROVIDED AT

[HTTP://WWW.NPC.NAVY.MIL/BOARDS/ACTIVEDUTYENLISTED/GENERALINFORMATION.HTM](http://WWW.NPC.NAVY.MIL/BOARDS/ACTIVEDUTYENLISTED/GENERALINFORMATION.HTM)

OFFICIAL RESULTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED BY NAVADMIN MESSAGE.

### **ENHANCED CAREER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM - INTERACTIVE DETAILING**

THE RECENTLY ANNOUNCED ENHANCEMENTS THAT ENABLE SAILORS TO ACCESS AND APPLY TO CMS/ID VIA THEIR HOME COMPUTERS HAVE MADE THIS VITAL COMPONENT OF THE ENLISTED ASSIGNMENT SYSTEM MORE READILY AVAILABLE. THE IMPROVEMENTS DISCUSSED IN THIS NAVADMIN WILL MAKE CMS/ID MORE AGILE, MORE RESPONSIVE TO NEW/CHANGING FLEET REQUIREMENTS, AND MORE DYNAMIC IN EXECUTION. IN AGGREGATE, THESE INITIATIVES OFFER ADVANTAGES TO BOTH OUR SAILORS AND THE COMMANDS WHERE THEY SERVE, AND BETTER POSITION THE NAVY AND OUR PEOPLE FOR SUCCESS IN NAVAL OPERATIONS WORLD-WIDE.

### **MODIFICATION OF OBLIGATED SERVICE AND EXTENSION POLICIES**

THIS NAVADMIN ANNOUNCES THE MODIFICATION OF OBLIGATED SERVICE AND EXTENSION POLICIES WHICH WILL MEET OUR OBJECTIVE OF GREATER STABILITY AND IMPROVED PREDICTABILITY IN THE FORCE. IT WILL ALSO INCREASE PREDICTABILITY FOR SAILOR DISTRIBUTION AND PROVIDE SAILORS WITH THE NEEDED FLEXIBILITY TO MAXIMIZE INCENTIVES AND MANAGE THEIR CAREERS.

## ***INDIVIDUAL AUGMENTEE NEWS AND UPDATES: (Cont.)***

### **BLUE TO GREEN ARMY INITIATIVE UPDATE**

THE BLUE TO GREEN PROGRAM OFFERS TRANSITIONING SAILORS THE OPTION OF CONTINUING ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE WITH THE ARMY WITHOUT ANY BREAK IN SERVICE. SAILORS RETAIN THE BENEFITS OF ACTIVE SERVICE WHILE USING THE VALUABLE TRAINING, KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES THEY DEVELOPED IN THE NAVY. TRANSITION TO THE ARMY MAY BE PARTICULARLY BENEFICIAL FOR SAILORS SEPARATING FROM THE NAVY UNDER PERFORM TO SERVE (PTS) OR E-4 HIGH YEAR TENURE (HYT).

### **LOGISTICS SPECIALIST RATING ESTABLISHMENT**

THIS NAVADMIN ANNOUNCES THE OFFICIAL MERGER OF THE STOREKEEPER (SK) AND POSTAL CLERK (PC) RATINGS INTO THE LOGISTICS SPECIALIST (LS) RATING AS OF 1 OCTOBER 2009.

### **AFGHANISTAN PAKISTAN HANDS PROGRAM**

THE PURPOSE OF THIS NAVADMIN IS TO HIGHLIGHT THE IMPORTANCE OF THE AFGHANISTAN PAKISTAN HANDS PROGRAM, AND TO ENCOURAGE VOLUNTEERISM FOR THE NAVYSPECIFIC SKILL SETS DESIRED. NAVY IS FULLY COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING THIS CRITICAL EFFORT.

### **REPORT OF THE 30 JULY 2009 NAVY UNIFORM BOARD**

THIS NAVADMIN ANNOUNCES THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS (CNO) APPROVED UNIFORM POLICY CHANGES PROPOSED BY THE 30 JULY 2009 NAVY UNIFORM BOARD. CNO APPROVED UNIFORM CHANGES INCLUDE: NAVAL AIRCREW (NAC) DESIGNATION, WEARING OF ONE INSIGNIA FROM ANY SINGLE CATEGORY OF INSIGNIA, NAVY COSMETICS POLICY (WOMEN), UNITED STATES AFRICA COMMAND (U.S. AFRICOM) STAFF IDENTIFICATION BADGE, AND NON-SPARK SAFETY BOOT

### **FALL 2009 SEASONAL AND NOVEL H1N1 INFLUENZA PREPAREDNESS**

THIS YEAR'S FLU SEASON WILL INCLUDE THE SEASONAL AND THE NOVEL (H1N1) INFLUENZA VIRUSES. EACH WILL REQUIRE A SEPARATE IMMUNIZATION. THE SEASONAL VACCINE IS AVAILABLE NOW. THE H1N1 VACCINE IS UNDERGOING TESTING AND IS EXPECTED TO BE AVAILABLE IN MID-OCTOBER.

### **COSMETIC POLICY UPDATE**

THIS NAVADMIN ANNOUNCES THE PROCESS AND PROCEDURES FOR OBTAINING COSMETIC PERMANENT MAKEUP. FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING PERMANENT MAKEUP PROCEDURES AND POLICY IN THE FORM OF FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ), VISIT:

[WWW.NPC.NAVY.MIL/COMMANDSUPPORT/USNAVYUNIFORMS](http://WWW.NPC.NAVY.MIL/COMMANDSUPPORT/USNAVYUNIFORMS)

### **CNO GUIDANCE FOR 2010**

2010 CNO GUIDANCE REAFFIRMS FOCUS AREAS AND 18 INTENTIONS, WHICH WERE ARTICULATED IN PREVIOUS GUIDANCE [WWW.NAVY.MIL](http://WWW.NAVY.MIL).

### **POST DEPLOYMENT HEALTH RE-ASSESSMENT UPDATE**

THIS NAVADMIN ANNOUNCES POST DEPLOYMENT HEALTH RE-ASSESSMENT (PDHRA) UPDATES AND GUIDANCE ON THE DEPLOYMENT HEALTH ASSESSMENT (DHA) PROGRAM. TO ENSURE SAILORS ARE SCREENED FOR PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS BEFORE AND AFTER CERTAIN DEPLOYMENTS.

### **SELECTED RESERVE E1 THROUGH E6 HIGH YEAR TENURE ADJUSTMENT**

IN ORDER TO ENABLE ENLISTED COMMUNITIES TO PROVIDE GREATER ADVANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND QUALITY PERSONNEL TO THE FLEET, HYT GATES FOR SELECTED RESERVISTS ARE BEING ADJUSTED.

### **TEMPORARY EXPANSION OF THE HOMEOWNERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

RECENTLY, AS PART OF THE ARRA, CONGRESS PROVIDED \$555 MILLION TO TEMPORARILY EXPAND ELIGIBILITY TO ADDRESS THE UNIQUE ECONOMIC PRESSURES FACED BY MILITARY PERSONNEL WHO ARE FORCED TO RELOCATE DURING CURRENT ADVERSE HOUSING MARKET CONDITIONS.

## ***INDIVIDUAL AUGMENTEE NEWS AND UPDATES: (cont.)***

### **FEBRUARY 2010 NAVY-WIDE EXAMINATIONS FOR SELECTED RESERVE PERSONNEL TO PAYGRADES E4-E7 AND FY-11 SELRES E7 SELECTION BOARD**

ALL CANDIDATES SERVING ON VOLUNTARY RECALL, ACTIVE DUTY TRAINING, OR ACTIVE DUTY UNDER ANY PRESIDENTIAL RECALL AUTHORITY, INCLUDING MOBILIZATION, WILL COMPETE FOR ADVANCEMENT AS SELRES INACTIVE (USNR-INACTIVE) IN CYCLE 086.

### **SELECTIVE REENLISTMENT BONUS**

THIS NAVADMIN ANNOUNCES THE FY10 SELECTIVE REENLISTMENT BONUS (SRB) AWARD LEVELS FOR ACTIVE COMPONENT AND RESERVE COMPONENT FULL TIME SUPPORT (FTS) AND SUPERSEDES REF A.

### **POST 9-11 GI BILL, REAP, AND MGIB-SR TRANSFERABILITY POLICY AND INTERIM PROVISIONS FOR RETIREMENT ELIGIBLE MEMBERS**

THIS NAVADMIN EXPLAINS TRANSFERABILITY POLICIES AND THE APPLICATION PROCESS. THIS PROCESS IS COMPLICATED AND SERVICEMEMBERS MUST CONSULT WITH THEIR CAREER COUNSELORS TO FULLY UNDERSTAND IT.

## **Individual Augmentee News**

### **Navy Embraces Smartphone Applications to Strengthen IA Comms**

NORFOLK (NNS) -- U.S. Fleet Forces Command (USFF), the Executive Agent for the Individual Augmentee (IA) Continuum, has added a new means of communication through social media with the launch of the Navy's first Smartphone application, or IA app, on Sept. 1.

### **USFF Takes Action to Man the Fleet**

NORFOLK, Va. (NNS) -- In an effort to address many of the fleet manpower challenges affecting the Navy today, U.S. Fleet Forces (USFF) has initiated a number of key actions to refine manpower issues across the fleet enterprise.

### **Don't Miss Out on Post-9/11 GI Bill Benefits Transferability**

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) -- Sailors with 90 days of active duty service after September 11, 2001, have earned education benefits under the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008, with no buy-in costs. This benefit can now be transferred to family members shown in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System

### **Free Workshop Preps IA Warriors for Deployment**

BREMERTON, Wash. (NNS) -- Naval Base Kitsap (NBK) Bangor Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) held a Warrior Workshop at the Community Center in Jackson Park Aug. 12.

### **Chicago Returning Warrior Weekend Honors Military Members, Families**

CHICAGO (NNS) -- Service members from the Midwest region along with family members attended the Returning Warrior Workshop (RWW) in Chicago Aug. 8-9.

### **Fleet and Family Support Program Offers Workshops for IAs, Families**

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The Fleet and Family Support Program offers a full range of workshops tailored to individual augmentees (IAs) and their families. The workshops ensure that Sailors and their families have the necessary information to properly prepare for and complete ...

### **Submariner Awarded Bronze Star for IA Service**

KINGS BAY, Ga. (NNS) -- A submariner was awarded Bronze Star for combat operations while serving an individual augmentee during a ceremony held at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, Ga., Sept. 17.

## ACCESSING YOUR ELECTRONIC SERVICE RECORD (ESR)

**Sign-up for, and create, your Self-Service Electronic Service Record (ESR) account:**

1. Log onto the Navy Standard Integrated Personnel System (NSIPS).

**CTRL + CLICK to open link:** <https://nsipsweb.nmci.navy.mil/psp/NEDB/EMPLOYEE/HRMS/?cmd=login>

2. Under "Links" click on Navy Standard Integrated Personnel System.

3. Under "System Access Authorization Request" click on New Users (ESR Self Service).

4. Fill in form and click Validate and Create Self Service Account.

5. Go back to above link and log in to view your ESR.

Please refer to the ESR Self-Service Desk Guild and the ESR Frequently Ask Questions (FAQ) on the log in page.

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Also, the link to BOL "Web Enabled Record Review" provided below gives you access to your CD (formerly known as "micro-fiche"). **CTRL + CLICK to open link:** <https://werr.bol.navy.mil/>.

## GTCC TRAVEL TIPS

### European Travel Tips

Ensure your card is processed successfully when traveling abroad. Traveling to Europe soon? Be aware that many countries throughout Europe, including the UK, Ireland, France, and others, have recently introduced a chip and pin payment system that utilizes cards embedded with a chip and protected through the use of a personal identification number. Some merchants in Europe have mistakenly refused to accept Visa cards issued by U.S. financial institutions because the cards do not have an embedded chip that can be read at the point of sale. The good news is that U.S. cardholders visiting Europe can continue to use their magnetic stripe Visa card in countries with this system. The merchants' terminals are designed to recognize and prompt appropriately, and you should still be able to sign a transaction receipt.

### What is Visa doing to address this problem?

Visa is working with financial institutions and merchants across Europe to ensure that they understand correct card acceptance procedures. As with any major technology change, it is possible that some merchants don't fully understand what these changes mean to their business. Visa is taking all possible steps to minimize confusion and assure global acceptance.

### What should I do if a merchant refuses to take my card?

If you encounter difficulties using your card in Europe, insist that the merchant swipe your card and follow the prompts on the terminal, or ask the merchant to contact his/her bank for instructions. You can also contact the Visa Customer Care Services number at 800-VISA-911, or use the international number, 1-800-55-8002, while traveling in Europe.

### If my card is rejected at a fuel machine or ticketing kiosk, what should I do?

For locations where there is no sales clerk, such as ticketing machines, fuel pumps, and toll roads, and only chip and PIN cards are accepted, try to locate a terminal where a clerk can help make your transaction.

Knowing your payment options as a traveler is always an important part of preparing for any trip. Along with knowing your rights as a cardholder in terms of card acceptance, we encourage you to:

- Notify your issuing bank before traveling internationally.

- Check with your issuing bank regarding whether your card is subject to daily withdrawal restrictions while abroad, so you know how much money is available from an ATM on a daily basis. Using a Visa Credit card for major expenses such as hotels, travel tickets, etc., also helps to ensure that daily cash limits will not be a problem.

- Make a record of card account and telephone numbers for reporting lost or stolen cards and keep it in a safe place away from your wallet or handbag.

- Remember your PIN for ATM cash access.

## ***FAMILY TIPS OF THE MONTH***

### **Community and DoD Family Support Activities:**

[www.JointServicesSupport.org](http://www.JointServicesSupport.org) is a new website that lists all of the Yellow Ribbon Pre-Deployment and Reintegration programs, Family Readiness Programs, Warrior Support, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, and more. These programs are PURPLE, this means that they invite ALL members of the Active, Reserve and Guard communities and their Families to participate.

### **Spouse Support:**

Use this link to find a comprehensive resource for Navy spouses and their families to access information about the Navy communities in which they reside or to which they may be relocating.

CTRL + CLICK to open link: <http://www.npc.navy.mil/CommandSupport/SpouseSupport/>

ECRC IA Family Helpdesk: [ecrc.fs.fct@navy.mil](mailto:ecrc.fs.fct@navy.mil), 24-7 Careline 1-877-364-4302.

### **Has your family moved?**

The Navy uses NFAAS to locate and assist your family during natural disasters and other emergencies. Update your family contact information in NFAAS by clicking here: (CTRL + CLICK to open link: <https://www.navyfamily.navy.mil/>) It will only take a few minutes to update your family information. You will need your social security number and birth date to get access. Select the [NFAAS-Navy Family Member] tab. Update your family information under the [MY INFO] tab. Enter all the people (under Location and Contact Info and Additional Family Members sections) you want contacted in case of emergency. You may also take a survey under the [ASSESSMENT] tab to further assist your family and make specific family needs known.

**TRICARE** Provides Emergency Care for Service Members, Families Traveling Overseas

[http://www.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story\\_id=41610](http://www.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story_id=41610)

### **Returning Warrior Workshops**

RWWs are a critical component of the Return, Reunion, and Reintegration program. These vital events are providing first-rate support for Navy's AC and RC Sailors and their families/significant others. During the RWW weekend, a broad spectrum of facilitators and clinical professionals provide a great deal of resource information and individual/group counseling opportunities to educate and support the Navy Family and assist Sailors' re-acclimation to their families and civilian lives. Click here for links to more information about free RWW weekends in your area [http://www.ia.navy.mil/rww\\_dates.doc](http://www.ia.navy.mil/rww_dates.doc)

**Child Care Aware** is a resources from the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies. They can assist your spouse with Child Care referrals for employment, job search, respite care during deployment and more. Contact [www.naccrra.org](http://www.naccrra.org) or 1-800-424-2246.

**Heroes to Hometowns** is a program coordinated by the American Legion in support of military service members and their families. They help during pre-deployment through reintegration and also support veterans, as well as ill or injured veterans. This is a Service member, Veteran and Family support organization with lots of volunteer opportunities available. Their website is [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org)

### **Operation Purple Camp has FREE programs for Kids and Families!**

"The mission of the Operation Purple program is to empower military children and their families to develop and maintain healthy and connected relationships. The program is joint or "purple"-encompassing all Service branches, including the National Guard and Reserve."

There are three types of programs:

Operation Purple Camp is a week long summer camp for kids who's parents are deployed or have recently (deployment took place 12-15 months prior to camp) been deployed.

Operation Purple Leadership Experience (also a summer camp) is for military teens who are interested in developing leadership and teen mentoring skills that they then bring back to their community.

Operation Purple Family Retreats are offered year round. They are four day weekend retreats specifically designed to help families "reconnect after deployment."

## ***FAMILY TIPS OF THE MONTH (cont.)***

All three camp types are held in America's National Parks. Each program has an emphasis on environmental education to include traditional activities such as hikes, orienteering, canoeing, and arts and crafts. They also include military family focused activities where kids, teens and families learn about communication, problem solving, working as a team and how build personal and family resiliency.

The Program, Housing and Meals are provided free of charge, the only cost to the family is transportation to and from the camp.

For more information contact the National Military Family Association at [OPC@militaryfamily.org](mailto:OPC@militaryfamily.org).

## ***SAVINGS DEPOSIT PROGRAM (SDP)***

The DOD Savings Deposit Program (SDP) was established to provide members of the uniformed services serving in a designated combat zones the opportunity to build their financial savings. Amounts up to \$10,000.00 may be deposited, earning 10% interest annually. Members must be receiving Hostile Fire Pay and be deployed for at least 30 consecutive days, or 1 day in each of 3 consecutive months in order to participate in the program.

### **Withdrawal Procedures:**

Withdrawal request may be e-mailed to [CCL-SDP@dfas.mil](mailto:CCL-SDP@dfas.mil) (SDP mailbox), or faxed to (216) 522-5060 "Attention: SDP". Members may submit a withdrawal request on-line using myPay. Additionally, requests can be mailed to the following address:

DFAS- Cleveland Center (DFAS-CL)  
ATTN: SDP  
Special Claims  
1240 East 9th St .  
Cleveland , OH 44199-2055

Members must include name, social security number, and date of departure from the combat zone. Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) information must include the bank name, routing number, account number, and account type (savings or checking). If a hard copy check is requested, a complete mailing address must also be provided. Make sure that your allotment has stopped before requesting withdrawal.

### **Withdrawals:**

Members may close their SDP accounts only after departing the combat zone. Interest will continue to accrue on the account up to 90 days after departure from the combat zone. Should the 90 day period end on any day other than the last day of a month, interest will accrue through the last day of the preceding month. If the 90-day period ends on the last day of a month, interest accrues for that month. Members in a combat zone may withdraw accrued interest over the \$10,000.00 principal quarterly.

Withdrawals of funds on deposit may be made in an emergency only when the health or welfare of a member or dependents would be jeopardized if the withdrawal were not granted. Emergency withdrawals must be authorized by the members' commanding officer.

### **SDP Help Line:**

Toll Free (Stateside Only): 1-888-332-7411

Commercial: 216-522-5096

DSN: 580-5096

Fax: (Attention SDP): 216-522-5060

E-mail: [CCL-SDP@dfas.mil](mailto:CCL-SDP@dfas.mil)

Click here to view the [DOD Savings Deposit Program pamphlet](#).

## ***POST 9/11 GI BILL***

### **DoD Announces Transferability Options For 'Post 9/11 GI Bill'**

The Defense Department announced June 23 its policy for transferring educational benefits to the spouses and children of service members under the "Post 9/11 GI Bill," which takes effect Aug. 1.

[http://www.npc.navy.mil/AboutUs/NPC/PublicAffairs/NewsDetails/911\\_GIBill.htm](http://www.npc.navy.mil/AboutUs/NPC/PublicAffairs/NewsDetails/911_GIBill.htm)

## ***PAY AND ALLOWANCE CONTINUATION (PAC) PROGRAM***

In May 2008 PAC program replaced PIC program. PAC authorizes the continuation of pay and allowances for up to one year (longer with waivers) to service members who incur a wound, injury or illness in the line of duty while serving in a combat operation or combat zone. This program allows members to receive all pays and allowances they were receiving at the point of injury for up to one year or longer with waivers, while still receiving treatments for wounds sustained in combat. Read more at

=<http://www.dfas.mil/mil-news/june2008/payandallowancecontinuationprogram.html>

## ***NAVY DEPARTMENT AWARDS WEB SERVICE***

Have questions concerning awards? Log into the Navy Department Awards Web Service (NDAWS) and get the latest information on Navy awards. You can look up Personal Awards you have received and Unit Awards your previous commands have received. Do you have questions concerning awards you received but are not showing in your records? Visit NDAWS, click on the link below.

**CTRL + CLICK to open link:** [https://awards.navy.mil/awards/webbas01.nsf/\(vwWebPage\)/home.htm?OpenDocument](https://awards.navy.mil/awards/webbas01.nsf/(vwWebPage)/home.htm?OpenDocument)

## ***SERVICE MEMBER'S GROUP LIFE INSURANCE TRAUMATIC INJURY PROTECTION (TSGLI)***

TSGLI coverage became effective on December 1, 2005 for all participants in the SGLI program. As the program was being implemented the VA announced it would initiate a Yearly Review of TSGLI. The VA and DoD undertook a complete evaluation of the losses covered by TSGLI as well as the definitions of eligibility. Several changes were made to the TSGLI regulations and became effective on November 26, 2008. Read more at <http://www.insurance.va.gov/sgliSite/TSGLI/TSGLI.htm>.

## ***HOMEOWNERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM***

### **\$555 Million DoD Homeowners Assistance Program Details Announced**

<<http://www.defenselink.mil/releases/release.aspx?releaseid=13009>>

The Department of Defense (DoD) today announced details for the temporary expansion of the Homeowners Assistance Program (HAP). Using \$555 million in funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), this program is designed to partially reimburse eligible military personnel, surviving spouses, and federal civilian employees whose service to the nation has required them to relocate and sell their primary residence at a loss.

Potential eligible personnel include:

- Active and former service members of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard;
- Civilian employees of the DoD, Coast Guard, and non-appropriated fund activities; and
- Surviving spouses of both fallen service members and civilian employees.

Potential eligible personnel who have sold a primary home for a loss or are considering selling their home are encouraged to visit the DoD HAP Web site (<http://hap.usace.army.mil>) to check specific program criteria, and if eligible, apply online.

The DoD HAP has been providing financial assistance to military personnel and DoD civilians since 1966, mainly at base realignment and closure (BRAC) sites where government action caused a decrease in market home values. While the HAP expansion is not designed to pay 100 percent of losses or to cover all declines in value, it can help protect eligible applicants from financial catastrophe due to significant losses in their home values.

## **HOMEOWNERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (cont.)**

Supporting military families is one of administration's highest priorities and includes leadership and engagement by Michelle Obama and Jill Biden. In February 2009, the Congress provided ARRA funding for a temporary expansion of the HAP to address unique economic pressures faced by military personnel who are forced to relocate during these unusually adverse housing market conditions. After conducting an extensive analysis to determine how best to prioritize the finite funds available while maximizing assistance to as many people as possible, the DoD developed specific eligibility criteria designed to take care of people in the greatest need. These program details have been published in the Federal Register and are now available for public comment.

ARRA funding allows the DoD to temporarily expand HAP to partially reimburse losses from the sale of a primary residence in the following priority order:

1. Homeowners wounded, injured, or ill in the line of duty while deployed since Sept. 11, 2001, and relocating in furtherance of medical treatment;
2. Surviving spouse homeowners relocating within two years after the death of their spouse;
3. Homeowners affected by the 2005 BRAC round, without the need (which existed under previous law) to prove that a base closure announcement caused a local housing market decline; and
4. Service member homeowners receiving orders dated on or after Feb. 1, 2006, through Dec. 31, 2009, for a permanent change of station (PCS) move. The orders must specify a report-no-later-than date on or before Feb. 28, 2010, to a new duty station or home port outside a 50-mile radius of the service member's former duty station. These dates may be extended to Sept. 30, 2012, based on availability of funds.

Each of these general categories has more specific eligibility requirements which have been updated at the DoD HAP Web site (<http://hap.usace.army.mil>). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers executes the program for all the military branches and HAP administrators will immediately start processing applications.